

May 3, 2016

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SUPPORT for Senate Bill 647

Members of the Committee:

My name is Angie Hufnagel. I am a Paramedic and a Registered Nurse. I have worked in the Emergency Department at Sparrow Clinton Hospital for the last 11 years. Our mission at Sparrow is to improve the health of the people in the mid-Michigan region by providing quality, compassionate care to everyone, every time.

I am here to support the CPR legislation proposed by the American Heart Association. For the past 5 years, Samantha Weber and I, have been teaching hands only CPR, the use of the Automated External Defibrillator (AED), and choking intervention, to the freshmen at Fowler High School where we are both alumni. Samantha is also a registered nurse in the Emergency Department at Clinton. We created this program as a way to reach out to our community. We are proud to say that, after last year, all of the students at Fowler High School have been trained in hands only CPR. It takes as little as 30 minutes to teach this potentially life-saving skill to students and the rewards are endless.

This is evidenced by the actions of Dane Armbrustmacher. Dane was a part of the CPR education at Fowler last year. Two weeks after receiving the education, Dane had to put his knowledge to the test. His three year old brother, Dakota, suffered an event and required CPR. Dane acted quickly, taking his brother from his mother's arms, and performed the hands only CPR that he had learned. He continued CPR until police and rescue arrived. Dakota is alive today because of Dane's actions. Had Dane not learned CPR, Dakota's outcome could've been very different.

As a result of this event, we have expanded our CPR program to include both the 5th and 7th grades at Fowler. One month ago, Sam and I were asked to teach hands-only CPR to the special education students at Clinton County RESA. I have been approached by parents at St. Mary's in Pewamo / Westphalia to teach CPR at their school as well. There is a need for this education in our community. Sparrow Clinton Hospital has recognized this and is currently developing a program for nurses to teach hands-only CPR to each of the schools located in Clinton County. It is part of our effort at Sparrow to deliver the very best experience to everyone we serve, every time and to achieve the best results in all we do. The proposed legislation would ensure that every student, not only in Clinton County, but in the State of Michigan, would have this lifesaving education. 31 states in the US have already passed legislation requiring that CPR training be added to the high school curriculum; Michigan should do the same. I am proud to support this bill and proud to share this education with the students in my community. Please consider supporting Senate Bill 647.

Thank you.